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INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES, AUSTRALIA, DECEMBER 1982

PHONE INQUIRIES *for more information about these statistics*—contact Ms Colleen Fogarty on Canberra (062) 52 6576 or any of our State offices.

other inquiries including copies of publications—contact Information Services on Canberra (062) 52 6627 or in any of our State offices.

MAIL INQUIRIES *write to* Information Services, ABS, P.O. Box 10, Belconnen, A.C.T. 2616 or any of our State offices.

MAIN FEATURES

In December 1982 the level of industrial disputation continued to decline with 67,900 working days lost involving 29,000 employees.

The main dispute involved pastoral industry employees in all States.

During 1982 an estimated 2.2 million working days were lost involving 721,000 employees. This is the lowest number of working days lost in any year since 1978 when 2.1 million days were lost.

EXPLANATORY NOTES

Introduction

More detailed information about disputes appears in the quarterly publication *Industrial Disputes, Australia* (6322.0).

2. The statistics of industrial disputes are compiled according to the Australian Standard Industrial Classification (ASIC), described in *Australian Standard Industrial Classification, 1978*, Vol. 1 (1201.0).

Coverage

3. The statistics refer only to disputes involving stoppages of work of ten man-days or more. Workers involved include workers directly and indirectly involved in disputes. Workers indirectly involved are those thrown out of work at the establishments where the stoppages occurred, but who are not themselves parties to the dispute. Particulars of some stoppages (e.g. those involving a large number of establishments) may have been estimated and the statistics therefore should be regarded as giving a broad measure of the extent of stoppages of work (as defined).

4. Stoppages of work occurring at different times and at different establishments, but having a common cause may be regarded as one industrial dispute. However, an industrial dispute occurring in more than one State is counted as a separate dispute in each State and in the

total for Australia. The monthly statistics refer to all disputes operative in the month, including those disputes that commenced in previous months. In Table 1 details of the number of disputes and workers involved are shown separately for disputes beginning in the month and for all disputes. Average days lost per worker involved on a monthly basis are not comparable with the yearly averages, because workers involved are included in each month in which they are involved in disputes, while they are counted once only for each dispute in the annual statistics.

Related publications

5. Users may also wish to refer to the following publication:

Industrial Disputes, Australia (6322.0)—quarterly and annual.

6. Current publications produced by the ABS are listed in the *Catalogue of Publications, Australia* (1101.0). The ABS also issues, on Tuesdays and Fridays, a *Publications Advice* (1105.0) which lists publications to be released in the next few days. The Catalogue and Publications Advice are available from any ABS office.

Symbols and other usages

- p preliminary—figure subject to revision
- r revised
- nil or rounded to zero

7. Where figures have been rounded, discrepancies may occur between sums of the component items and totals.

A. R. BAGNALL
Acting Australian Statistician

TABLE 1. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES : AUSTRALIA

Period	Number of disputes		Workers involved ('000)		Working days lost		Estimated loss in wages(a) (\$'000)
	Commenced in period	Total(a)	Newly involved(b)	Total(a)	Number(a) ('000)	Average days per worker involved(c)	
1980	2,420	2,429	1,165.2	1,172.8	3,320.2	2.8	152,022
1981	2,887	2,915	1,229.1	1,251.8	4,192.2	3.3	221,779
1982 p	2,045	2,060	689.6	721.2	2,156.1	3.0	133,499
1981—							
November(d)	254	321	313.4	400.1	944.5	2.4	49,836
December	150	208	58.7	132.4	223.3	1.7	12,197
1982—							
January	140	155	40.5	71.2	461.9	6.5	28,314
February	208	222	80.8	85.6	131.9	1.5	7,583
March	204	224	49.3	76.4	156.4	2.0	9,243
April	137	170	32.9	59.4	107.4	1.8	6,623
May	182	204	66.4	71.6	117.8	1.6	6,740
June	180	201	49.2	58.4	81.6	1.4	4,909
July p	204	233	72.8	105.2	198.8	1.9	12,941
August p	192	219	133.0	163.8	412.6	2.5	24,675
September p	163	194	65.9	84.1	167.2	2.0	11,608
October p	157	184	43.0	62.6	150.5	2.4	9,592
November p	r163	r195	r31.3	r64.1	r102.1	1.6	r6,517
December p	115	137	24.6	29.0	67.9	2.3	4,754

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) Comprises workers involved in disputes which commenced during the month and additional workers involved in disputes which continued from the previous month. (c) Monthly figures are not comparable with yearly figures. (d) Excludes employees stood down as a result of a dispute involving meat inspectors.

TABLE 2. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES(a) : INDUSTRIES, AUSTRALIA, WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

Period	Manufacturing				Construc- tion	Transport and storage; Communication		Other industries (b)	All industries
	Mining		Metal products, machinery and equipment	Other		Steve- doring services	Other		
	Coal	Other							
1980	710.7	197.7	615.9	728.4	217.9	73.4	142.5	633.7	3,320.2
1981	318.3	307.4	1,221.6	654.1	441.9	59.3	406.2	783.3	4,192.2
1982 p	523.8	157.1	241.8	333.0	231.1	21.6	274.6	373.1	2,156.1
1981—									
November(c)	93.6	27.2	293.8	222.9	119.2	9.6	17.6	160.6	944.5
December	17.5	9.8	24.3	25.4	6.5	14.5	27.7	97.5	223.3
1982—									
January	395.1	10.1	15.3	15.8	7.8	3.9	2.2	11.8	461.9
February	6.7	8.0	17.2	10.8	23.8	0.6	35.1	29.8	131.9
March	6.9	24.0	8.9	19.5	29.2	0.2	9.4	58.3	156.4
April	3.4	35.0	11.6	15.6	11.5	0.5	15.9	13.7	107.4
May	8.1	10.2	26.7	33.4	18.6	2.4	4.7	13.8	117.8
June	9.1	2.8	12.4	19.4	16.3	3.0	4.6	13.9	81.6
July p	31.7	10.5	16.4	13.1	29.8	0.8	30.5	66.0	198.8
August p	14.9	13.4	35.2	63.8	42.1	3.9	162.8	76.7	412.6
September p	19.5	11.8	25.3	46.5	15.8	1.5	2.2	44.6	167.2
October p	21.1	20.0	28.8	47.6	21.4	2.9	1.4	7.3	150.5
November p	3.3	5.5	r40.1	35.9	11.5	0.7	2.0	3.2	r102.1
December p	3.9	5.9	3.9	11.7	3.3	1.2	3.9	34.1	67.9

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) ASIC divisions A, D, F, I to L. (c) See footnote (d) to Table 1.

TABLE 3. INDUSTRIAL DISPUTES(a) : WORKING DAYS LOST ('000)

Period	N.S.W.	Vic.	Qld	S.A.	W.A.	Tas.	Aust. (b)
1980	1,208.6	1,115.4	618.7	59.4	191.0	91.5	3,320.2
1981	1,918.6	1,235.5	465.8	158.8	244.0	64.3	4,192.2
1982	959.7	368.0	509.8	66.6	162.4	61.5	2,156.1
1981—							
November(c)	450.8	381.2	58.9	21.5	19.7	11.2	944.5
December	117.7	61.3	9.1	11.6	11.6	4.2	223.3
1982—							
January	356.0	14.1	63.6	3.4	19.6	3.8	461.9
February	57.2	20.1	27.6	11.0	13.5	0.5	131.9
March	72.6	16.0	24.5	7.7	22.3	2.4	156.4
April	29.9	11.9	18.9	4.4	27.9	13.5	107.4
May	45.7	45.3	8.7	1.3	9.7	5.6	117.8
June	40.2	15.7	12.8	2.7	8.3	0.4	81.6
July p	75.8	42.9	57.0	4.3	11.5	5.2	198.8
August p	73.2	38.5	263.7	19.1	15.1	1.6	412.6
September p	96.7	45.5	7.0	2.8	5.2	8.0	167.2
October p	44.4	66.2	7.6	1.3	20.7	9.8	150.5
November p	38.7	r40.3	15.0	0.5	4.3	2.0	r102.1
December p	29.2	11.4	3.4	8.1	4.3	8.7	67.9

(a) Refers to all disputes in progress during the period. (b) Includes the Northern Territory and the Australian Capital Territory. (c) See footnote (d) to Table 1.